



# Media Release

**U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Kansas City District**

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## **Tuttle Creek Dam Stabilization Contract Awarded**

MANHATTAN, Kan. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers today awarded the contract to reinforce the 18 spillway Tainter gates at Tuttle Creek Dam. The \$7.5 million award to Alltech Engineering Corps of Mendota Heights, Minnesota will allow work on the spillway gates to begin this fall.

The spillway gates reinforcement will ensure that the gates are reliable during major floods. The work involves removal of lead paint and repainting the gates and operating equipment, installing welded-steel plates to reinforce the gates, and replacing of the bearings on the 18 spillway Tainter gates. The work on the project is expected to be completed by winter, 2008.

The spillway work is part of the larger Tuttle Creek Dam Safety project, designed to address earthquake stability and flood adequacy of the dam.

Other on-going work at the project includes construction of office facilities for the construction staff, construction of two new campgrounds to offset potential impacts to campgrounds below the dam, and stabilization of the sands beneath the dam through cement injection. A contract for a concrete barrier along the top of the dam to protect against waves during high water is planned for the future.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has already installed a dam failure warning system, which consists of high-tech monitoring equipment combined with warning sirens in the valley downstream from the dam. The system will assist the 13,000 residents below with evacuation should a major earthquake occur before the project completes. An earthquake between magnitude 5.7 and 6.6 could significantly damage the dam.

All work on the dam is expected to be complete by 2012 at a total cost of over \$200 million.

For more information about the Tuttle Creek Dam Safety project, visit the Corps' Web site at <http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/projects/tcdam/index.htm> or call the Kansas City District Public Affairs Office at (816) 983-3486.